

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /080 W  
-----212124Z 042229 /70

R 210734Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3829  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY BANGUI  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1304

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PCS, PINT, CD  
SUBJECT: SOVIET EMBASSY ASSESSES CHADIAN INTERNAL SITUATION.

1. SOVIET EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY (AND ACTING DCM) SIZYKH  
IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF APRIL 20 VOLUNTEERED SOVIET  
ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL SITUATION. SIZYKH SAID THAT HE HAD  
RECENTLY VISITED ABEICHE AND HAD GOOD DISCUSSIONS WITH MILITARY  
COMMANDER, PREFET, AND "OUR PEOPLE" THERE. (SOVIETS HAVE  
SEVERAL TECHNICIANS ABEICHE AND PERHAPS SOME MILITARY  
AS WELL.) HE HAS ALSO TALKED WITH CHADIAN AIR FORCE CHIEF  
KONDOL AND OTHERS IN N'DJAMENA. HE BELIEVES THAT SOVIET  
EMBASSY HAS REASONABLY GOOD PICTURE AS "SOVIET MILITARY  
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SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT WELL-KNOWN."

2. SIZYKH DESCRIBED CHADIAN GOVERNMENT MILITARY SITUATION  
IN ABEICHE AREA AS GOOD, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO NEWLY  
DEVELOPED COOPERATION BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR FORCES.  
HELICOPTER SPOTTERS BEING USED TO GOOD ADVANTAGE, CALLING IN  
BY RADIO GROUND FORCES AS NEEDED. HE MENTIONED THAT BROTHER

HISSEN HABRE HAD BEEN KILLED IN ONE SUCH OPERATION AND HABRE HIMSELF WOUNDED. (LATTER HAS BEEN REPORTED FROM OTHER SOURCES.) SIZYKH SAID HE AWARE REPORTS OF DEATH OF EL-BAGHLANI (REBEL LEADER OF EASTERN CHAD) BUT THAT HE DOES NOT YET GIVE FULL CREDENCE TO REPORT. RUMORS IN ABECHE AND ELSEWHERE MAINTAIN THAT EL-BAGHLANI STILL ALIVE BUT HE DID NOT SPECULATE ON WHEREABOUTS. HE BELIEVES LACK OF INCIDENTS OVER APRIL 13 CHADIAN NATIONAL HOLIDAY DUE COMPLETELY TO TIGHT SECURITY MEASURES OF GOVERNMENT, BUT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SUCH TIGHT SECURITY CAN BE MAINTAINED FOR LONG. HE THINKS THAT ABBA SIDDIK AND FROLINAT (FRONT FOR THE NATIONAL LIBERATION OF CHAD), AND/OR REBEL LEADER GOUKOUNI IN NORTH MUST TAKE SOME SPECTACULAR TYPE OF ACTION SOMEWHERE IN CHAD BEFORE RAINY SEASON TO MAINTAIN CREDIBILITY AND OFFSET EFFECTS OF RECENT GOVERNMENT EXECUTIONS OF REBELS.

3. IN INTERESTING ASIDE, SIZYKH STATED THAT SOVIETS IN ABECHE UNDER SOME HARASSMENT BY LOCAL CITIZENS WHO DEMAND KNOW WHY SOVIET UNION GIVING ARMS TO SOME CHADIANS TO KILL OTHER CHADIANS.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS HEARD OTHER RUMORS THAT EL-BAHLANI STILL ALIVE, BUT TENDS TO DISCOUNT AS NATURAL TENDENCY ADHERENTS TO REFUSE TO BELIEVE CHERISHED LEADER HAS FALLEN. EMBASSY TO COMMENT ON VALIDITY OF APPRAISAL OF MILITARY SITUATION AS BEING GOOD. SOVIET ASSESSMENT OTHERWISE LARGELY IN ACCORD WITH OUR OWN. BRADFORD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SITUATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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